

What is claimed is:

1. A packaging system, comprising:

a tray;

a blister pack comprising a general access zone including a

5 plurality of general access chambers, a restricted access zone including a plurality of restricted access chambers, and a chamber-free zone including a guide slot extending into said chamber-free zone, said general access zone and said restricted access zone being separated by said chamber-free zone;

a blister retaining cap coupled to said tray for slideably securing said blister pack

10 within said tray; and,

a hinging cap hingeably mounted to said tray, said hinging cap controlling access to said restricted access zone.

2. The packaging system of claim 1, wherein said tray comprises a frame including

15 end walls, sidewalls, and a mounting post attached to said frame.

3. The packaging system of claim 2, wherein said tray further includes at least one general access window corresponding in position with said general access chambers, and at least one restricted access window corresponding in position with said restricted access

20 chambers.

4. The packaging system of claim 3, wherein each one of said plurality of general access chambers includes at least one general access item, and each one of said plurality of restricted access chambers includes at least one restricted access item.

25

5. The packaging system of claim 4, further comprising a central guide post extending through said guide slot.

6. The packaging system of claim 5, wherein said blister retaining cap further includes a base and walls that form a hood, said hood covering the restricted access zone of said blister pack when said blister pack is in a first position.

7. The packaging system of claim 6, wherein said tray further includes at least one stirrup formed within one of side walls.

5 8. The packaging system of claim 7, wherein said hinging cap includes a flap, at least one rib protruding from the interior surface of said flap, and at least one button extending outwardly from a corresponding strut affixed to said flap.

9. The packaging system of claim 8, wherein said button correspondingly engages  
10 said stirrup so as to secure said hinging cap closed.

10. The packaging system of claim 9, wherein said flap is hingeably affixed to said tray so that when said child-resistant hinging cap is in a closed position, said rib butts at least one of said restricted access chambers, locking the blister pack in the first position.

15 11. The packaging system of claim 10, wherein said hinging cap is opened by inwardly deflecting said button so as to clear said stirrup, permitting said rib to clear said restricted access chambers and said blister pack to slide to a second position.

20 12. The packaging system of claim 11, wherein said blister retaining cap further includes a semicircular well.

13. The packaging system of claim 1, further including an outer sleeve configured to receive said tray, said blister pack, said retaining cap, and said hinging cap.

25 14. The packaging system of claim 13, wherein said outer sleeve includes a first open end and a second open end, such that when said tray is extended from said first open end the child-resistant hinging cap is accessible, and when said tray is extended from said second end the general access zone is accessible.

30

15. The packaging system of claim 1, wherein said tray, said retaining cap, and said child-resistant hinging cap comprise a plastic material.

16. The packaging system of claim 4, wherein said access item comprises any one of 5 a first medication, a second medication, a non-medication or any combination thereof.

17. A blister pack, comprising:

a general access zone including a plurality of general access chambers, each one of said general access chambers including at least one general access item;

10 a restricted access zone including a plurality of restricted access chambers, each one of said restricted access chambers including at least one restricted access item; and,

a chamber-free zone including a guide slot, said general access zone and said restricted access zone being separated by said chamber-free zone.

15 18. The blister pack of claim 17, wherein said access items comprise any one of a first medication, a second medication, a non-medication or any combination thereof.

19. The blister pack of claim 18, further comprising a backing material affixed to the 20 open side of said access chambers for securely enclosing said general access items within said general access chambers and said restricted access items within said restricted access chambers.

20. A method for packaging items, said method comprising:  
25 packaging items in a blister pack, said blister pack including a general access zone including a plurality of general access chambers, a restricted access zone including a plurality of restricted access chambers, and a chamber-free zone including a guide slot axially extending into said chamber-free zone, said general access zone and said restricted access zone being separated by said chamber-free zone;  
30 loading said blister pack within a tray;  
affixing a retaining cap to said tray for slideably holding said blister pack within said tray; and,

hingeably mounting a child-resistant cap to said tray for controlling access to said restricted access zone.

21. The method of claim 20, wherein said step of packaging includes placing at least 5 one general access item into a corresponding general access chamber and placing at least one restricted access item into a corresponding restricted access chamber.

22. The method of claim 21, wherein said step of packaging further includes affixing a backing material to an open side of said chambers for securely enclosing said items.

10

23. The method of claim 22, wherein said step of loading includes inserting said blister pack within said tray, said tray including a mounting post extending through the guide slot of said chamber-free zone.

15

24. The method of claim 23, wherein said step of affixing includes mounting a blister retaining cap to said tray, said blister retaining cap including a central guide post that is coupled to said mounting post for allowing the blister pack to slide in a first position for accessing the general access zone and in a second position for accessing both the general access zone and the restricted access zone.

20

25. The method of claim 24, wherein said step of affixing further includes positioning said retaining cap over the restricted access zone of said blister pack for covering said restricted access zone when the blister pack is in said first position.

25

26. The method of claim 25, wherein said step of hingeably mounting includes hingeably attaching said hinging cap to said tray, placing said hinging cap in a closed position so that a holding rib positioned within said hinging cap butts against at least one of said restricted access chambers thereby locking the blister pack in said first position and preventing the blister pack from sliding in said second position, and placing said hinging cap in an open position so that said rib clears said restricted access chambers

allowing the blister pack to slide into the second position for gaining access to the restricted access zone.

27. The method of claim 26, further including slideably inserting said tray, said blister  
5 pack, said retaining cap and said hinging cap within an outer sleeve, said outer sleeve  
including a first open end and a second open end.

28. The method of claim 21, wherein said step of packaging includes placing at least  
one general access item comprising a first medication into a corresponding general access  
10 chamber and placing at least one restricted access item comprising a second medication  
into a corresponding restricted access chamber.

29. A method for packaging items, said method comprising:  
packaging items into a blister pack, said blister pack including a general access  
15 zone including a plurality of general access chambers, a restricted access zone including a  
plurality of restricted access chambers, and a chamber-free zone including a guide slot,  
said general access zone and said restricted access zone being separated by said chamber-  
free zone.

20 30. The method of claim 29, wherein said step of packaging includes placing at least  
one general access item comprising any one of a first medication, a second medication, a  
non-medication or any combination thereof into a corresponding general access chamber.

31. The method of claim 30, wherein said step of packaging further includes placing  
25 at least one restricted access item comprising any one of a first medication, a second  
medication, a non-medication or any combination thereof into a corresponding restricted  
access chamber.

32. The method of claim 31, wherein said step of packaging further includes affixing  
30 a backing material to an open side of said chambers for securely enclosing said items in  
each of said respective chambers.